

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:USOAS:DCLARE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 297303

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 297303 SENT ACTION SANTIAGO INFO ALL AME
RICAN

REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS USCINCSO DEC 17; REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 297303

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, CH

SUBJECT: VI OASGA IN SANTIAGO

REFERENCE: STATE 292797

1. PERMANENT COUNCIL VOTED DECEMBER 17 TO ACCEPT INVITATION
OF CHILE TO HOLD VI OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SANTIAGO IN
JUNE 1976. US EFFORT TO POSTPONE VOTE OVER HOLIDAYS TO
PERMIT FURTHER EFFORTS AT ACHIEVING CONSENSUS DEFEATED BY
VOTE OF NINE TO FIVE WITH 10 ABSTENTIONS. VOTE ON OPERATIVE
RESOLUTION PASSED BY LARGELY LATIN MAJORITY OF 17,
OPPOSED BY MEXICO AND JAMAICA, WITH FIVE ABSTENTIONS (US,
COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO AND BARBADOS). FOLLOW-
ING FINAL VOTE, AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD MADE STATEMENT QUOTED
IN PARAGRAPH TWO BELOW. CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TRUCCO WELCOMED
VOTING RESULT IN LONG, RATHER EMOTIONAL PREPARED STATEMENT
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THAT ENDED WITH EXTEMPORANEOUS BARB AIMED AT QTE OLD

FRIENDS WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND AND MAY EVEN ABANDON US. UNQTE.

2. TEXT OF AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD'S STATEMENT:

QTE MR. CHAIRMAN, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE SEVERAL MINUTES TO EXPLAIN MY DELEGATIONS DECISION TO ABSTAIN ON THE VOTE TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE TO HOLD THE VI GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SANTIAGO NEXT JUNE. LET ME SAY AT THE OUTSET THAT OUR ABSTENTION IS NOT INTENDED TO DETRACT FROM THE GENEROUS INVITATION OF THE GOC NOR WOULD WE LIKE TO SET A PRECEDENT FOR ACCEPTING OR REJECTING OFFERS TO HOLD INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS ON THE BASIS OF UNANIMOUS ACCEPTANCE. OUR CONCERN, MR. CHAIRMAN, IS WITH A SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE THAT WE BELIEVE TO BE AN IMPORTANT TEST OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, NAMELY, THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

MOST OF US HERE TODAY WILL RECALL THE DECISION TAKEN AT THE FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY LAST MAY TO PASS A RATHER MILDLY WORDED RESOLUTION ON "THE STATUS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE", GA RES 190 OF MAY 19, 1975, WHICH REFERRED TO THE THEN IMPENDING VISIT TO CHILE A WORKING GROUP OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND TOOK NOTE, QTE WITH APPROVAL, OF THE ACCEPTANCE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE OF THE VISIT OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS UNQUOTE. IT WAS THE UNDERSTANDING OF MY DELEGATION AT THAT TIME, AND I THINK OF OTHER DELEGATIONS AS WELL, THAT THE QUITE TEMPERATE LANGUAGE OF THE RESOLUTION WAS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE FORTHCOMING AND COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE GOC TOWARD THE VISIT OF THE UN WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS. AS WE KNOW, FOR REASONS THAT NO DOUBT WERE GOOD AND SUFFICIENT FOR THE GOC, PERMISSION WAS ULTIMATELY DENIED FOR THIS WORKING GROUP TO ENTER ITS TERRITORY. THAT DECISION WAS OF COURSE THE SOVEREIGN PEROGATIVE OF THE GOC. AS A RESULT, HOWEVER, THE FINAL REPORT OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WAS LIMITED TO INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE CHILE, ITS FINDINGS WERE QUITE UNFAVORABLE AND THE UPSHOT WAS A UN RESOLUTION CONDEMNATORY OF THE GOC.

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MY REMARKS HERE TODAY ARE NOT DIRECTED AT THE JUSTICE OR INJUSTICE OF THE UN RESOLUTION NOR AT THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF THE GOC TO ADMIT OR DENY ENTRY TO ANY ONE OR ANY GROUP IT CHOOSES, BUT ONLY TO REFLECT THE UNEASE MY DELEGATION FEELS ABOUT THE PROPRIETY OF HOLDING THE NEXT GA IN A COUNTRY WHICH HAS FAILED TO ABIDE BY AN UNDERSTANDING REACHED AMONG US AT THE LAST GA. IF IN FACT IT WAS THE

CASE THAT GA RES. 190 REFLECTED SUCH A TACIT UNDERSTANDING
AMONG MOST DELEGATIONS AND THAT THE GOC HAS DEPARTED FROM
THE TERMS OF THAT UNDERSTANDING MY DELEGATION FEELS RE-
QUIRED TO ABSTAIN FROM ACCEPTING ITS OFFER TO ACT AS HOST
TO THE VI GA. THAT IS THE CONCLUSION THAT WE HAVE REACHED
AND WE HAVE THEREFORE ABSTAINED IN THIS VOTE. 7,153.
INGERSOLL UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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